THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Government have seen the news item in the 'Statesman' dated 30th March, 1994.

(b) National Film Development Corporation, a Public Sector Undertaking under the administrative control of this Ministry has been asked to consider this.

(c) Under the EXIM Policy the producer of the film is free to export the film for marketing abroad.

Expansion and Modernisation of Air Services

4478. SHRI IQBAL SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the plan to modernise and expand AIR services inçludes improved broadcast coverage of the AIR in the border areas to effectively counter hostile propaganda being made by some neighbouring countries ; and

(b) by when the plan is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. All India Radio has a Continuous programme to modernise and expand its services. The programme drawn under the VIIIth Plan of Rs. 1134.95 crores, includes continuation of ongoing schemes, Modernisation and Replacement schemes, new schemes and Software schemes. The broadcast coverage of the border areas will also be improved under the above mentioned schemes. These schemes are likely to be completed during the VIIIth Plan period.

Telecasting Tamil film songs on Doordarshan

4479. SHRI S. MADHAVAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Film Producers of Tamil Nadu have protested against the increase in charges for telecasting Tamil film songs on Doordarshan ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(c) what are the steps taken to telecast Tamil film songs on Doordarshan in the context of the decision taken by the Film Producers Association of Tamil Nadu ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Tamil Film Producers Council represented against the hike in the telecast fee of Tamil film songs under sponsored category.

(c) The hike has been withdrawn by Doordarshan.

Violence in films and T.V.

4480. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH :
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 4th April, 1994 under the caption, 'screen violence disturb child mind' ;

(b) if so, what are the facts in this regard ;

(c) whether Government's attention has also been drawn to the recent study undertaken by a group of leading British Child Psychologists concluding that there is a definite link between violence portrayed in video films and television and aggression among youngsters ; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (c) Government have seen the news item appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 4th April, 1994 under the caption "Screen violence distorts child mind". According to the news item, a group of leading British child psychologists has concluded that there is definite link between violence portrayed in video films and on television and aggression among youngsters.